

Message Text

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ACTION ITF-05

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 SSO-00 FDRE-00 OPR-02 A-01 PER-01

H-02 SCA-01 AID-05 VO-03 SR-02 ORM-01 IGA-01 INSE-00

SS-15 IO-10 DODE-00 /056 W
----- 007207

R 140822Z MAY 75

FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4990

INFO USLO PEKING

C O N F I D E N T I A L HONG KONG 5352

PEKING FOR CROSS

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SREF, VS, HK

SUBJECT: SITREP--VIETNAMESE REFUGEES IN HONG KONG

1. BESIDES 67 DEPARTING MAY 13 FOR GUAM, FOURTEEN OTHER VIETNAMESE REFUGEES DEPARTED FOR CANADA. FIVE OF THESE WERE FROM THE M.V. JAPAN WHILE NINE WERE FROM THE CLARA MAERSK. OF THE OTHER 22 ON BOARD THE JAPAN, 12 INDICATED A DESIRE TO GO TO FRANCE AND 10 TO SWEDEN BUT NEITHER COUNTRY HAS YET ACCEPTED THEM. THE HKG HAS REFUSED TO ALLOW THEM TO DISEMBARK IN HONG KONG. TOTAL NUMBER NOW IN HK DETENTION CAMPS IS 3,897.

2. WE URGENTLY REQUIRE RESPONSE TO HK 5256 CONCERNING THE 103 VIETNAMESE REFUGEES ARRIVING MAY 16 ON BOARD THE M.V. OREGON. ACCORDING TO EMBASSY BANGKOK (BANGKOK 8627), WE SHOULD ARRANGE FOR THEIR ONWARD TRAVEL TO GUAM. UNFORTUNATELY, WE HAVE NO AUTHORITY TO DO SO AND HKG OFFICIALS HAVE INDICATED THEY WILL NOT PERMIT THEM TO LAND UNLESS WE PROVIDE ASSURANCE THAT THEY WILL RAPIDLY DEPART HONG KONG, PREFERABLY GOING DIRECTLY FROM THE SHIP TO THE AIRPORT.

3. LOCAL AIR AMERICA OFFICE HAS INFORMED US THAT J.DEHMLOW
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OF VIETNAMESE INTER-AGENCY TASK FORCE INDICATED HEIR FIVE

EMPLOYEES, WHO ARRIVED HONG KONG APRIL 29 ON BOARD AIR AMERICA PLANE, "QUALIFY FOR ENTRY INTO THE REFUGEE PROGRAM UNDER THE PAROLE EXEMPTION." WE HAVE EXPLAINED TO AIR AMERICA THAT WE HAVE NEITHER PAROLE AUTHORITY NOR AUTHORITY FOR PERSONS TO CONTINUE ON TO GUAM. WE WOULD APPRECIATE CLARIFICATION ON THE STATUS OF THESE FIVE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

4. WE WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE CLARIFICATION OF PAROLE AUTHORITY IN HONG KONG (HK 5307) APAP.
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